

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHETSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

Held at the Council Offices, Cemetery Road, Whetstone

13th February 2014

Present: Mr. A.Greenwood – Chairman  
Mr. M.R.Bounds  
Mr. L.M.Phillimore  
Mr. D.Smith  
Ms. S.Tomlinson  
Mr. P.Cox  
Mr. R.Simmons  
Mr. L.Breckon (Clerk)  
PC Kirti Chauhan  
BDC Cllr. Mrs. M. Broomhead

Mrs. A.M.Tyler  
Mr. M.E.Jackson  
Mr. J.Riley  
Mrs. P.Kenney  
Mr. B. Drury  
Mr. S.Webb  
Mr. M.C.Burley  
Mrs. S.Coe – Deputy Clerk  
PCSO Zahid Malik  
No Parishioners

### **143. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received from: - Mr.A.Tanner – Holiday, LCC Cllr. Mr. K. Coles – Meeting, LCC Cllr. Mr.D.Jennings - meeting.

RESOLVED: To accept apologies received.

### **144. CHAIRS REPORT AND REMARKS**

The Chairman welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

### **145. DISCLOSURES OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

Mr. A. Greenwood declared a prejudicial interest as a Board member of the Blaby and Whetstone Boys Club. Mr. M.E. Jackson and Mr. D. Smith declared a personal interest in the Whetstone Allotment Association.

### **146. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF COUNCIL DATED 16<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2014**

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting dated 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

### **147. TO RECEIVE MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014 be received. That the verbal report be received.

### **148. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

a) Public Speaking Protocol - No Requests had been received.

b) The meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to make representation about any item not on the agenda (old parishioners time).

i) An update was given on the DWH Springwell Lane Ombudsman situation. A letter had been received from Eric Pickles MP relating to the matter and the local MP had held meetings with Ministers on the matter. A meeting was being held with the Planning Minister in March with BDC and this matter would be raised again.

ii) The access onto Springwell Lane notice regarding closure, whilst works went ahead on the construction site access, had been published. The time of closure seemed excessive. The Clerk was asked to query the reason for the length of closure as the access road and entry and egress were all situate on the land owned as part of the planning application.

iii) Dog mess was being highlighted as an issue to members. This was as always an education to those who were not clearing up. The ground staff always checked the areas of public use as part of their daily and weekly inspection. An item would be put into the next Duckpaddle.

iv) Drains on Enderby Road had not coped with the recent rains again. This had been reported to LCC.

- v) Trees on Sanderson Close / Whittle Close POS were being reported as being overgrown. The Clerk would ask the Ground staff to look at the trees and liaise with residents that were possibly effected.
- vi) A fencing panel had ended up in Oliver park in a drainage ditch. The Clerk would ask the Ground Staff to remove it.
- vii) Speeding on Attfield Drive was highlighted as an issue. The Speed Camera did capture both directions and this information could be used to get action by the appropriate agencies.

**149. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM LEICS. POLICE ON MATTERS RELATING TO WHETSTONE**

PC Kirti Chauhan, Beacon Officer and PCSO Zahid Malik, who was newly appointed to the Blaby, Cosby, Glen Parva and Whetstone Beat, introduced themselves. PC Chauhan reported the following:

- i) Site visits had been made to Springwell Lane following the logging of incidents regarding speeding cars. Action would be taken. Members felt frustration as to the action to date and the way calls had and had not been acted upon as it was good and full information being passed to the Police.
- ii) Untaxed cars had been dealt with in Sanderson Close.
- iii) The underpass under the Blaby bypass had been raised as a venue for drug users. This was being monitored and agencies were aware.
- iv) Other updates were given related to Policing activity in the Village.
- v) The crime figures were available on the Police website.

The following questions were asked:

Why was there a need to furnish questions to be asked ahead of the Inspector attending a meeting of Council? This was to ensure that information was able to be produced that answered the questions fully. Experience had shown that often questions asked on the night required further work and investigation. This was a pro active approach.

Were the parking problems in the village centre still being addressed? The parking issues by the war memorial had moved away but inconsiderate parking was still taking place. Parking on footways/ footpaths was still occurring. There was an offence committed under law by vehicles parking on footways / footpaths. The pragmatic approach taken was that providing a wheelchair could get safely by the parked vehicle on the footway / footpath that the vehicle was not an issue. It was noted that some Councils had byelaws allowing the matter to be dealt with instantly by way of a fixed penalty. A lorry was parking on Victoria Road which was not allowing the safe passing by a wheelchair. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to the Police.

There were cars for sale being parked at what were considered dangerous places in the village. These needed reporting to the LCC Trading Standards team. Members were asked to report all matters to 101 or Crime stoppers as this ensured the matter was recorded as an incident.

With no further questions, the Chairman thanked the Officers for their attendance and they left the meeting at 8.15 p.m.

**150. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

BDC Cllr. Mr.A.Greenwood reported the BDC relocation of the depot was being presented for approval at BDC Full Council on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2014. If approved, the plan was to relocate to the LCC site at Whetstone, and the Littlethorpe site would be sold for redevelopment as housing. The LCC report on unitary status had been published and was flawed in many of its details relating to BDC.

BDC Cllr. Mrs. M. Broomhead had nothing further to add. She thanked members for her warm welcome. She was Chairman of the BDC older Peoples Forum and welcomed Members attendance at the AGM to be held on March 3rd at 2.00 p.m at the Council Chamber at BDC.

RESOLVED: That any verbal reports given be received.

**151. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

No reports to be given.

**152. FINANCE - RECEIVE ACCOUNTS AND CONFIRM BALANCE SHEET**

RESOLVED: That the accounts paid up to the end of January 2014 were confirmed. The bank reconciliation statement dated 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014 was signed by the Chairman on behalf of Council.

**a) TO APPROVE SCHEDULE OF FEES AND REVISED RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR WHETSTONE CEMETERY**

The Clerk had issued an updated copy of the rules and regulations of the Cemetery to Members. The prices include the resolutions made by last month's Full Council meeting. The Clerk had added two changes regarding still born or aged up to one month old infant deaths so as to bring Whetstone Cemetery in line with other neighbouring Cemeteries.

RESOLVED: That the rules and regulations of the Cemetery, as presented be approved.

**153. CLERKS REPORT**

The ground staff work schedule had been distributed. The Clerk reported the following: The Whetstone Baptist Church planning application had been approved at the last BDC DCC meeting. An additional 18 car parking spaces had been added to alleviate concerns regarding the car parking issues and double yellow lines along both sides of Dog and Gun Lane had been added as a planning condition.

The Clerk had a copy of the Glen Parva Cork Lane development consultation for information. The Cricket Club had contacted the Clerk regarding the type of container for the Sports ground as a replacement for the garage.

The Clerk gave a S106 update from the last Finance meeting. The s106 officer had not been available and advice sought from the former s106 officer Matt McConville. Based on the rules surrounding what can be claimed for under the s106 provision and the advice given, the Clerk had completed an application to be made for £50,579 to provide continuation to the works completed over the last three years on the Warwick Road sports ground. This included a Breendon gravel footpath bordering the edge of the sports ground and Astroturf type matting underneath the exercise equipment already installed.

The Zurich Insurance claim for the Exercise Equipment in the Warwick Road Sports ground had been closed with the Council indemnified as not at fault.

The A426 bus corridor project was to be the subject of a consultation exercise which would include residents in Whetstone.

The Clerk had received confirmation that the two signature requiring two parish councillors to sign all cheques and orders for payment was being repealed in Parliament.

RESOLVED: The Clerks report be accepted and actions noted. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his report.

**154. CORRESPONDENCE**

**To receive correspondence report:** RESOLVED: The list be received and noted.

- a) BDC – Confirmation of Precept request 2014/15 and Council tax base for Whetstone – for information – noted.
- b) BDC – Confirmation of street names and addresses for site south of Dog & Gun Lane – for information – noted.
- c) LCC – Highways Forum information – noted.
- d) WAA – Minutes of last meeting - for information – noted.

RESOLVED: The letters be received and actions noted.

**155. TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER MEETINGS, ORGANISATIONS OR EVENTS**

- a) LRALC – Blaby Branch Meeting – Village Hall, Countesthorpe – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2014.
- b) Leics. Footpath Association – AGM – Woodhouse Eaves – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2014.

RESOLVED: That the events be noted and Members wishing to attend inform the Clerk.

**156. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

In accordance with the Public bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960, the press and the public will be excluded from the following item by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed (staffing) and will be requested to withdraw.

**ALL CONFIDENTIAL TEXT HAS BEEN REMOVED**

With there being no further business, the Chairman thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.55 p.m.